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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of

Jung S. Yi et al

Serial No. 10/036,181

Filed: December 28, 2001

Title: PASSIVE WATER MANAGEMENT
FUEL CELLCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket: C-2531

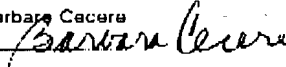
Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: G. E. Winter

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
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Office (Fax No. 703-872-9306) on

1/26/04

Barbara Cacera

RESPONSE

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated December 17, 2003.

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8-10 remain for consideration.

It is earnestly requested that when the Examiner takes this case up for any further action, that he phone the undersigned attorney prior to issuing another Action so that the issues can be absolutely clear.

1,2. Claims 1-4, 8 and 9 are rejected as anticipated by Collins et al (Collins). The rejection is flawed in two ways. First, the rejection relies on interpretations of Collins which are not supported by fact. Second, the rejection fails to take into account two significant structural recitations in claim 1.

Specifically, claim 1 requires that "said water flow field being dead ended in the region of the corresponding one of said reactant gas inlet manifolds." The rejection cites column 3, lines 47 et seq., which recites "the coolant inlet being defined in the coolant flow field adjacent the cathode inlet." In Collins Fig. 1, clearly, coolant is driven by a pump 40 through a valve 44 into the coolant flow